

Message Text

SECRET

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61

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 PM-03 SP-02

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 L-02 DRC-01 /053 W

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R 241600Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9531

INFO DOD

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF ARMY

S E C R E T SANTIAGO 4363

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS4

TAGS: PINS, PGOV, CI

SUBJECT: PINOCHET INDICATES EASING OF INTERNAL SECURITY
RESTRICTIONS IN PROSPECT

1. SANTIAGO PRESS JULY 24 CARRIES STORIES FROM GOC
PRESS SPOKESMAN INFORMING THAT PRESIDENT PINOCHET WILL
MAKE MAJOR STATEMENT ON SEPTEMBER 11, ANNIVERSARY OF
COUP WHICH OVERTHREW ALLENDE, DRAWING UP BALANCE SHEET
OF JUNTA'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND LOOKING AHEAD.

2. DURING PINOCHET'S SMALL LUNCHEON FOR SECRETARY
CALLAWAY, AMBASSADOR PRESENT, LATTER REMARKED ON HOW
DIFFICULT IT WAS TO CONVINCE AMERICAN OBSERVERS THAT IT
WAS NECESSARY TO CONTINUE IN EFFECT "STATE OF WAR"
AUTHORIZED UNDER CHILEAN CONSTITUTION, SO MANY MONTHS
AFTER SEPTEMBER 11 COUP. PINOCHET ANSWERED THAT HE
INTENDED TO END STATE OF WAR RESTRICTIONS AS OF
SEPTEMBER 11, AND TO MAINTAIN ONLY "STATE OF INTERNAL
DEFENSE."

3. WE WERE PUZZLED BY THIS TERMINOLOGY, WHICH DOES
NOT APPEAR IN CHILEAN CONSTITUTION. ACCORDINGLY, AT
FINAL DINNER FOR SECRETARY CALLAWAY JULY 23, AMBASSADOR
SECRET

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SOUGHT CLARIFICATION. PINOCHET INDICATED THAT "STATE

OF INTERNAL DEFENSE" WOULD BE A NEW LEGAL STATUS NOT
NOW COVERED UNDER THE CONSTITUTION. IT WILL APPARENTLY
INVOLVE SOME RELAXATION OF CURRENT RESTRICTIONS, THOUGH
BY NO MEANS A RETURN TO NORMAL. ASSUMING PRESIDENT PERSISTS
IN HIS INTENTIONS, WE WOULD ANTICIPATE CONSIDERABLE
CONTROVERSY AMONG GOVERNMENT ADVISERS IN WORKING OUT DETAILS.
POPPER

SECRET

NNN

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